

## Town of Chatham

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **North Chatham Post Office COVID-19 Cluster**

Chatham officials were notified today by the Occupational Health Nurse Administrator for the N.E. Region of the Postal Service of a cluster of COVID-19 cases among staff at the North Chatham Post Office. Positive results were reported to the USPS in the last several days.

According to the Postal Service four (4) staff have tested positive for COVID-19 including two (2) Chatham residents. The other cases reside in other Cape communities. Due to health privacy laws no identifying information on the Chatham residents can be released. The Town does not have access to information on the other positive cases. The Postal Service is conducting contact tracing and following cleaning protocols in accordance with Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) guidance. The Town has been in contact with the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) as well to ensure information is exchanged.

The Town encourages anyone who has been to the North Chatham Post Office since December 28<sup>th</sup> to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 (<u>Symptoms of Coronavirus | CDC</u>), consult with their personal physician, and consider utilization of the testing available in Barnstable County (<u>COVID-19 Testing on Cape Cod</u>: <u>Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment (barnstable county health.org</u>)).

The Town receives notification on COVID-19 positive residents through MAVEN (Massachusetts Epidemiologic Network) when case information is uploaded. Information in MAVEN is derived from laboratories conducting testing and follow-up by the VNA or Community Tracing Collaborative (CTC). Information in MAVEN is dependent on individuals completely responding to questions posed by contact tracers.

With the current COVID-19 surge underway the Town very strongly encourages all residents and visitors adhere to State guidelines, Governor's Orders, and local Board of Health Orders regarding COVID-19 including wearing masks, social distancing, and frequent hand washing or use of hand sanitizer.

Further information will be released when it becomes available.

Updated COVID-19 information is available on the Town's website: <a href="https://www.chatham-ma.gov/home/pages/covid-19-coronavirus-information">https://www.chatham-ma.gov/home/pages/covid-19-coronavirus-information</a>.

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